

R E M A R K S

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9 and 12 currently remain in the application. Claims 2, 3, 5,, 6, 8, 10, 11 and 13-17 are canceled and claims 1, 3, 4, 9 and 12 are herein amended. Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Berstsson, claims 5-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Bergtsson, and claims 9-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Bergtsson in view of Hekai. In part in view of the cited references and the reasons for rejection by the Examiner, the claims section has been amended as described above. The broadest claim (the only independent claim) now remaining is an equivalent of claim 5 as originally filed. In other words, the invention is now characterized as comprising the steps of concentrating a vegetable juice to Brix concentration 10-60% to obtain a concentrate and subjecting this concentrate to electrodialysis.

This narrowed limitation is supported by the specification as originally filed but in order to make it even clearer, one of the joint inventors herein has carried out an additional set of experiments for demonstrating the effects of concentrating a vegetable juice to Brix concentration 10-60% to obtain a concentrate to be subjected to electrodialysis. The details of this additional experiment will be submitted in the form of a declaration under 37 CFR 1.131.

The undersigned attorney's intention was to submit this declaration together with the instant Amendment but the undersigned attorney will be out of his office from February 28 to March 14, 2007 and the declaration signed by said joint inventor who carried out the experiment could not be delivered to the undersigned attorney sufficiently quickly. So, the declaration will be submitted herewith in order to expedite the prosecution without the intended declarant's signature. As soon as the document with the declarant's signature is delivered to the undersigned attorney's office, the same will be belatedly submitted.

As can be ascertained from this document, although presently unsigned, nitrate nitrogen can be eliminated from a vegetable juice efficiently if this vegetable juice is concentrated to Brix concentration 10-60% to obtain a concentrate and this concentrate is subjected to electrodialysis, as taught by the present invention.

In summary, it is believed that the present Amendment is totally responsive to the Office Action and hence that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kenichi Nishimura', written over the printed name.

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